

Statewide Broadband Initiative

Governor's 2006 Legislative Agenda



- ✓ **Rural Broadband Access** – Establish a \$5 million OneGeorgia Authority Grant and Loan Fund to help rural areas develop broadband access to boost their local economic development.
- ✓ **Wireless Broadband Starting in 3 Cities** - Establish a \$5 million initiative partnering with at least 3 Georgia cities to bring wireless broadband to their area. Interested cities will compete and be chosen based on their level of interest in partnership and based on their plan to boost local economic development, educational access, and enhanced provision of government services with the new infrastructure.

Rural Broadband Initiative Details

- ✓ Provide \$5 million to launch a new, competitive OneGeorgia program to provide grants and loan funds to local governments.
- ✓ Support local government broadband connectivity needs and increase the speed and availability of broadband services in Georgia's un-served and/or underserved rural markets.
- ✓ Provide affordable broadband services and networks supporting economic development, including sustainable, long-term growth in both the public and private sectors.
- ✓ Cover all or a portion of the costs of technical assistance or broadband infrastructure expansion.
- ✓ Require a local government match.

Wireless Broadband Initiative Details

- ✓ Provide over \$5 million to implement open-air networks in at least 3 cities.
- ✓ Enable the state to partner as a fellow anchor tenant in a community, city-wide or downtown wireless project, purchasing from a private company wireless connections and services for state needs.
- ✓ Require the cities to also come to the table as an anchor tenant for wireless services.
- ✓ Interest cities selected through an evaluation process based on factors such as